

### REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This is a preliminary amendment in a RCE application. Reconsideration of this application, as amended and in view of the following remarks, is respectfully requested. Claims 1-7 originally appeared in the application. Applicants have cancelled claims 3, 4, and 7. The claims presented for examination are: claims 1-2 and 5-6.

#### Claim Objections

In numbered paragraph 1 of the Office Action mailed July 24, 2007 claims 5-6 were objected to because in claim 5 "connector" should be "connection means" and in claim 6 "4" should be "5."

Applicants have amended claim 5 to change "connector" to "connection means" and have amended claim 6 to change "4" to "5."

#### 35 U.S.C. §1.12 Rejection

In numbered paragraph 3 of the Office Action mailed July 24, 2007 claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §1.12, second paragraph, because the biasing spring was precluded and there is no description of an embodiment lacking the biasing spring.

Applicants have amended the claim 5 to include the biasing spring.

In numbered paragraph 4 of the Office Action mailed July 24, 2007 claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §1.12, second paragraph, because claim 6 contradicted claim 5.

Applicants have amended the claim 6 so that it no longer contradicts claim 5.

Applicants believe that the amendment overcomes the rejection of claims 5 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §1.12, second paragraph, and that a complete response to the rejection has been provided.

**Allowed Claims**

In numbered paragraph 7 of the Office Action mailed July 24, 2007 it was stated that claims 1-2 "are allowed."

**Allowable Claims**

In numbered paragraph 5 of the Office Action mailed January 24, 2007 it was stated that claims 5-6 "would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. §1.12, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph, set forth in this Office Action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims."

Applicants previously amended claims 5-6 to include all of the limitations of the base claim 4 and any intervening claims.

Applicants have amended claims 5-6 to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. §1.12, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph, set forth in the Office Action mailed July 24, 2007.

Applicants believe that amended claims 5 and 6 are allowable.

SUMMARY

The undersigned respectfully submits that, in view of the foregoing amendments and the foregoing remarks, the rejections of the claims raised in the Office Action dated July 24, 2007 have been fully addressed and overcome, and the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance. It is respectfully requested that this application be reconsidered, that the claims be allowed, and that this case be passed to issue. If it is believed that a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of the present application, or clarify matters with regard to its allowance, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (925) 424-6897.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: September 21, 2007